Gauge conversion of Bilimora-Vaghai rail line

†3787. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the planning for laying new tracks upto Nasik in Maharashtra by converting narrow gauge line into a broad gauge one from Bilimora to Vaghai in Gujarat; and

(b) the provision made in the budget estimate for constructing this railway line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) There is no such proposal.

(b) Does not arise.

Proposal for survey of rail lines in Rajasthan

†3788. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals for survey of new rail lines in Rajasthan submitted during last three years;

(b) whether such survey of all the proposed new rail lines has been completed and the details thereof; proposal-wise; and

(c) the outcome of the survey, proposal-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) The details of the surveys sanctioned for new lines falling partly/fully in Rajasthan during the last three years are given as under:—

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Km.	Status
1	2	3	4
1.	Dahod-Banswara	120	Surveys had been completed. In view
2.	Ratlam-Banswara *via* Dungarpur	176	of large throwforward of ongoing

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3	4
3.	Phalodi-Nagaur	147	projects acute constraint of resources and unremunerative nature of the lines, it was not considered feasible to take up these works.
4.	Bilara-Bar	45	These surveys have been taken up.
5.	Jaisalmer-Barmer	170	Further consideration of the projects
6.	Ujjain-Jhalawar/Ramganjmandi	190	would depend upon results of the
7.	Bari Sadri-Nimach	50	survey, once the survey reports
8.	Pushkar-Merta Road	40	become available.
9.	Anupgarh-Khajuwala-Ramgarh-Jaisalmer	485	
10.	Ajmer-Kota	210	

Container train services by private parties

3789. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have introduced scheme for running container train services by private parties;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of responses to the scheme received, so far, indicating the details of parties applied for operation licence and those who have been granted;

(d) whether Government are seized of the concern of the industry sources that container service would be facing hurdles due to shortage of train wheels and axles in the country; and

(e) if so, the steps contemplated, if any, to address this concern?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the scheme the operator will procure his own rolling stock and have a suitable access to a rail linked Inland Container Depot (ICD) and pay to the Railways haulage charges applicable uniformly to all operators.

(c) Fourteen operators have applied for permission to run container trains and all of them have been given 'In principle' approval.